

Jones County Health Department

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Health Department Reports Third COVID-19 Death in Jones County Press Release #13

Trenton, NC – Jones County Health Department is reporting a third Jones County resident who has died from complications associated with COVID-19. The resident was in their 60's, hospitalized and considered high risk for the virus due to age and underlying medical conditions.

“We are sad to learn that another Jones County resident has died due the COVID-19 virus. We extend our deepest sympathies to the individual’s family and friends,” said Wesley P. Smith, Health Director. “This is another sad day for our community. For high risk individuals, this virus can cause serious illness and in some cases be fatal. However, we want to assure everyone that the Health Department is working tirelessly to educate Jones County residents on steps they need to take to protect themselves and their loved ones from acquiring the virus,” Smith added.

To date, Jones County has 18 confirmed cases of COVID-19. Of those 18 cases, 5 are self-isolating at their homes, 10 have recovered and have satisfied the NC Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) isolation requirements and 3 are deceased.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), most people who test positive with COVID-19 will recover without needing to seek medical care. For that reason, people who have mild symptoms such as fever and cough without shortness of breath or difficulty breathing are encouraged to isolate themselves at home, separate themselves from others as much as possible, and call their medical provider for advice.

“If you leave home, practice the three Ws: **Wear** a cloth face covering if you will be with other people, **Wait** 6 feet apart to avoid close contact and **Wash** your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. These actions can protect our families and communities as restrictions continue to be lifted across the state while the virus is still widespread,” said Smith.

For more information on the Coronavirus, please visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/index.html>) and the North Carolina Division of Public Health Coronavirus call line (1-866-462-3821) or (<https://epi.dph.ncdhhs.gov/cd/diseases/COVID19.html>). Jones County Health Department also is a source of information (252-448-9111) or <http://www.jonescountyhealth.com/>.